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**From:** Jazmine Montford <jmontford95@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2013 7:04 PM  
**To:** AppropriationTestimony  
**Subject:** To the Members of the Appropriations Committee

To the Members of the Appropriations Committee,

I am writing to ask for your continued support of the Connecticut Science Center, as proposed in the Governor's budget. The Connecticut Science Center has taught me more than you will ever know. It has shaped me into the young woman that I am today but most of all Connecticut Science Center has given me guidance during the most crucial time in my life: my teenagers years. I was shy and reserved, the Connecticut Science Center gave me the push I needed to go beyond my comfort zone. I gained more than just confidence, I gained life skills. I have facilitated a number of live science demonstrations to the public. Through my one on one interaction with the public, I have learned people skills. The Connecticut Science Center has given me the courage to grow. If it wasn't for the Connecticut Science Center I would not be where I am today. This program helped me think about my future. Thanks to the guidance of the Connecticut Science Center, I have figure out what career I want to pursue. I was accepted to Central Connecticut State University and Southern Connecticut State University as a pre-nursing major for the Fall of 2013. The Connecticut Science Center has given me options. The Connecticut Science Center has given back to the community by selecting high school students in the Greater Hartford region like me, and many others in the program; in my opinion more teenagers need an opportunity like this to grow as young individuals.

Sincerely,  
Jazmine K. Montford  
17, Wethersfield, CT